

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 DRC-01 RSC-01 /025 W

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R 160818Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8253

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 15038

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, JA

SUBJ: VISIT BY COMSAT OFFICIALS

REFS: A) STATE 225796

B) DEPT'S A-4, JANUARY 2, 1973

1. REQUEST JOHNSON CONTACT FSO WILLIAM MCRORY (TEL 583-7141, EXT 731) FOR ANY ASSISTANCE DURING TOKYO VISIT (REF A).

2. IN ACCORDANCE REF B, FOLLOWING IS REPORT OF VISIT BY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COMSAT'S FAR EAST OFFICE (MERIANS) DURING FIRST TWO WEEKS NOVEMBER.

3. PURPOSE OF MERIANS VISIT WAS TO ESTABLISH INITIAL CONTACTS WITH JAPANESE SHIPPING INTERESTS RE THEIR INTEREST IN USING COMMERCIAL COMMUNICATIONS CAPACITY OF MARITIME SATELLITE SYSTEM SCHEDULED FOR LAUNCHING LATE 1974. MERIANS TOLD EMBOFF THAT LARGER SHIPPING LINES EXPRESSED INTEREST IN USING SYSTEM BUT THEY UNABLE ACT BEFORE GOJ ADDRESSES AND RESOLVES QUESTION OF WHICH JAPANESE AGENCY WOULD HAVE AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO SHIPS. CHOICE APPARENTLY IS BETWEEN KOKUSAI DENSHIN DENWA (KDD) AND NIPPON TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CORP (NTT). MERIANS SAID KDD IS PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO GET INTO MARITIME SATELLITE SERVICE AND IS PREPARED TO USE ITS IBARAKI EARTH STATION FOR THAT PURPOSE. KDD ALSO PREPARED TO INSTALL SHIPBOARD TERMINALS ON ITS CABLE-LAYING SHIP TO GAIN EXPERIENCE WITH COMSAT SYSTEM.

4. MERIANS SAID KDD TRIED BUT FAILED TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENT

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FOR HIM TO DISCUSS COMSAT SYSTEM WITH MINISTRY OF POSTS AND TELE-

COMMUNICATIONS (MOPT). MOPT OFFICIALS THOUGHT SUCH DISCUSSION  
WOULD BE QUOTE PREMATURE UNQUOTE AT THIS POINT. HOWEVER, HE DID  
DISCUSS MATTER WITH OFFICIALS OF TRANSPORT MINISTRY. LATTER  
EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT COMMERCIAL USE OF COMSAT SYSTEM MIGHT  
PREJUDICE WORK UNDERWAY IN INTERGOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE  
ORGANIZATION (IMCO) TOWARDS FORMATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL FRAME-  
WORK FOR MARITIME SATELLITE SERVICES. MERIANS SAID HE TRIED TO  
ALLAY THIS CONCERN BY EXPLAINING THAT COMSAT SYSTEM WOULD BE USEFUL  
TO IMCO IN PROVIDING ACTUAL EXPERIENCE WITH COMMERCIAL USE OF  
MARITIME SATELLITE SERVICE. MOT NEVERTHELESS INDICATED THAT GOJ  
WOULD NOT APPROVE USE OF COMSAT SYSTEM BY JAPANESE SHIPS UNLESS  
IT CLEAR THAT THERE IS NO CONFLICT WITH JAPANESE POSITION IN IMCO.  
INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONNEL TRAVEL, COMMUNICATION SATELLITES, STEAMSHIP LINES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973TOKYO15038  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** TOKYO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731127/aaaaatzg.tel  
**Line Count:** 74  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15-Nov-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2002 by golinofr>  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT BY COMSAT OFFICIALS  
**TAGS:** ETEL, JA, COMSAT, (MERIANS)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005